

**REMARKS:**

Claims 1-28 are currently pending in the application.

Claims 1-15, 17-22, 24, and 25 stand allowed.

Claims 4, 7, 13, 16, 23, and 26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

By this Amendment, the Applicant has amended Claims 4, 7, 13, 16, 23, and 26 in order to expedite prosecution of this Application and to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the Applicant regards as the invention. The Applicant respectfully submits that the Amendments to Claims 4, 7, 13, 16, 23, and 26 are not necessitated by any prior art and are unrelated to the patentability of the subject Application. In addition, by making these amendments, the Applicant makes no admission concerning the merits of the Examiner's rejection, and respectfully reserve the right to address any statement or averment of the Examiner not specifically addressed in this response. Particularly, the Applicant reserves the right to pursue broader claims in this Application or through a continuation patent application. No new matter has been added.

**ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER:**

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for stating that Claims 1-15, 17-22, 24, and 25 are allowed.

**REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 101:**

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for withdrawing the rejection of Claims 1-9 under 35 U.S.C. § 101.

**REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112:**

Claims 4, 7, 13, 16, 23, and 26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. The Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Nonetheless, the Applicant has amended Claims 4, 7, 13, 16, 23, and 26 in order to expedite prosecution of this Application and to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the Applicant regards as the invention. By making these amendments, the Applicant does not indicate agreement with or acquiescence to the Examiner's position with respect to the rejections of these claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112, as set forth in the Office Action.

The Applicant respectfully submits that amended Claims 4, 7, 13, 16, 23, and 26 are considered to be in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112. The Applicant further respectfully submits that amended Claims 4, 7, 13, 16, 23, and 26 are in condition for allowance. Thus, the Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of Claims 4, 7, 13, 16, 23, and 26 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 be reconsidered and that Claims 4, 7, 13, 16, 23, and 26 be allowed.

**REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102(b):**

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for withdrawing the rejection of Claims 1-3, 5-8, 10-12, 14-17, 20-22, and 24-27 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

**REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103(a):**

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for withdrawing the rejection of Claims 4, 9, 13, 18, 23, and 28 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

**CONCLUSION:**

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, this application is considered to be in condition for allowance, and early reconsideration and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

Although the Applicant believes no fees are deemed to be necessary; the undersigned hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayments, to **Deposit Account No. 500777**. If an extension of time is necessary for allowing this Response to be timely filed, this document is to be construed as also constituting a Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) to the extent necessary. Any fee required for such Petition for Extension of Time should be charged to **Deposit Account No. 500777**.

**Please link this application to Customer No. 53184 so that its status may be checked via the PAIR System.**

Respectfully submitted,

2 April 2007  
Date

/Steven J. Laureanti/signed  
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**CUSTOMER NO. 53184**